



Cricket Legend Krishnamachari Srikkanth Named Goodwill Ambassador for Vision 2020: The Right to Sight- India to Eliminate Blindness at a Function Hosted by Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai

Chennai, [March 18, 2025] – Former Indian cricket captain and legendary batsman **Krishnamachari Srikkanth** has been announced as the **Goodwill Ambassador** for a nationwide initiative spearheaded by **VISION 2020 India** at a function hosted by **Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai**, Proud member of Vision 2020: The Right to Sight-India dedicated to eliminating avoidable blindness in India.

Blindness remains a significant public health challenge in India, with millions affected by preventable and treatable conditions such as cataracts, refractive errors, and glaucoma. According to the National Programme for Control of Blindness and Visual Impairment, National Blindness & Visual Impairment Survey India 2015-2019, India is home to nearly 4.8 million blind individuals, and around 70 million people suffer from visual impairment. Studies indicate that over 80% of blindness cases in India are avoidable, making early intervention and accessible eye care services crucial.

As a well-respected sports icon, Srikkanth's involvement aims to raise awareness, mobilize resources, and encourage early diagnosis and treatment to combat blindness.

Speaking on his appointment as **Goodwill Ambassador, Krishnamachari Srikkanth** expressed his commitment to the cause: “I am honored to support this noble mission to eliminate avoidable blindness in India. Vision is an essential gift, and no one should suffer due to lack of access to proper eye care. When I was approached to be the Goodwill Ambassador, by President Dr.Rajesh Saini & Dr.Rohit Khanna I didn’t have to think twice. I knew this was a cause I wanted to be a part of—because the ability to see is not just about vision, it’s about dignity, independence, and a better future. Every child deserves the chance to read and learn. Every adult deserves the ability to work and provide for their family. Every elderly person deserves to see the world with clarity in their golden years

Dr. Phanindra Babu Nukella, CEO of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight-INDIA, welcomed Srikkanth’s appointment, stating: “We are honored to welcome Krishnamachari Srikkanth as the Goodwill Ambassador of VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA. With his passion for community development and strong connection with the public, we aim to amplify our efforts in raising awareness about eye health across the country.”

Dr. Rajesh Saini, President of Vision 2020: The Right to Sight-INDIA, expressed his gratitude for the noble gesture of Krishnamachari Srikkanth. His support will help us inspire action, educate communities, and drive meaningful change in the fight against avoidable blindness. He emphasized the importance of extending this eye care awareness campaign, through our Goodwill Ambassador, to the Network of Eye Care Institutes & Hospitals of Vision 2020-India, spanning from Jammu to Kerala.



Dr. T S Surendran, Chairman of Sankara Nethralaya, also shared his thoughts on the initiative: "Krishnamachari Srikanth's role as a Goodwill Ambassador will influence and strengthen the mission of preventing blindness by creating awareness about refractive errors, cataracts, glaucoma, and diabetic retinopathy."

As a Goodwill Ambassador, Srikanth will actively participate in awareness campaigns & events that drives to promote early detection and treatment of visual impairments. The initiative will work closely with medical institutions, government bodies, and corporate partners to provide free eye check-ups, surgeries, and vision correction services to underserved communities across Vision 2020 : The Right to Sight-India Members.

The collaboration is expected to bring a renewed focus to eye health and inspire citizens to take proactive steps in preserving their vision. With Srikanth's influence and passion, the movement aims to significantly reduce avoidable blindness in India and improve the quality of life for millions.

For media inquiries and further information, please contact:

Vision 2020 India & Sankara Nethralaya Eye Hospital

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About Vision 2020 India and Sankara Nethralaya Eye Hospital

VISION 2020: The Right to Sight – INDIA (VISION 2020 INDIA) was formed in 2004 as a national forum for eliminating avoidable blindness in India. It is a key driver of the joint global initiative of the **World Health Organization (WHO)** and the **International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB)** for reducing avoidable visual impairment. It is a collaborative effort of International NGOs, NGOs, and Dr RP Centre, AIIMS, working together to coordinate and support improved eye care programs, share knowledge, and develop solutions for quality, comprehensive, and equitable eye care. The primary objective of VISION 2020 India is to: *"Intensify and accelerate prevention of blindness activities so as to achieve the goal of eliminating avoidable blindness through policy environment and strengthening the capacity of eye care institutions."* More details are available at <https://vision2020india.org>.

Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai, is a globally renowned eye care institution dedicated to providing world-class ophthalmic care, research, and training. With a strong focus on community outreach and affordable treatment, Sankara Nethralaya has been a pioneer in fighting blindness in India. Sankara Nethralaya is a Centre of Excellence for academic training, India-centric research and clinical care at global standards. More details are available at www.sankaranethralaya.org

About Krishnamachari Srikanth



Krishnamachari Srikanth is a former Indian cricketer and captain, known for his aggressive batting and leadership. As a key member of India's 1983 World Cup-winning team, he remains a beloved sports figure and a source of inspiration for millions. Beyond cricket, Srikanth has been actively involved in various philanthropic causes, using his influence to drive positive social change.
